

NEGRO ESCAPES AFTER KILLING A WHITE MAN

Arthur C. Ruff Shot and Killed
by Jake Hightower.

Ward Was Cruelly Beaten
by the Negro.

TROUBLE AT MUTUAL ICE PLANT

Deputy Sheriffs Are Combining
Woods North of Topeka.

Slayer Served Two Terms in
the Oklahoma Pen.

Posses of citizens and deputy sheriffs armed with high powered rifles were combing the woods and swamps along the Calhoun bluffs and the Kaw river bank late this afternoon in search of J. C. (Crake) Hightower, who shortly after 7 o'clock this morning shot and killed Arthur C. Ruff, 1215 North Harrison street, and cruelly beat and wounded Roy Ward, 1102 North Jackson street, at the Mutual Ice plant, foot of Quincy street.



J. C. (Crake) Hightower.

Besides killing Ruff and beating Ward until he was unconscious, Hightower also fired three shots at P. D. Derrington and threatened to kill Martin Stueber, colored fireman, all employees of the plant.

NEGRO GETS AWAY

He then escaped thru a door opening onto Quincy street and made his way to North Topeka. When last seen he was said to have crossed one of the "Three Bridges" in North Topeka and was heading north along the railroad tracks.

The citizens posse was organized this afternoon by Sheriff Oscar Carlson. The negro is believed to be hiding in the woods along the Kaw river near Calhoun bluffs.

Was Starting to Work.

As the engines were changing shifts this morning, Ward, who was employed "pulling" ice from the tanks, started his work. Ruff, day laborer, had just taken over his duties and was in the receiving room adjoining the tank.

Derrington, night engineer, was at the locker on the engine room, several feet below the level of the tank when Ward was working, changing his clothes.

Ward said that Hightower, coming on the tank to commence pulling ice, walked up behind him, and without a word struck him on the back of the head with a pair of ice tongs. Ward sank to the floor, and Hightower continued to beat him with the ice tongs as he lay, inflicting several scalp wounds and rendering him unconscious.

Derrington, from the floor of the engine room, saw what was going on and shouted to Hightower to "cut that out!"

NEGRO SHOT TO DEATH

Hightower turned instantly, drew a revolver from his pocket, and fired three times at Derrington. Derrington, among the engines, was not an easy target, and succeeded in escaping from the room without being hit.

Hightower then turned and fired a shot at Ward as he lay unconscious. The bullet passed thru Ward's right arm, and he was killed instantly.

Threatened Another Employee.

The murderer then threatened Martin Stueber, colored fireman, on the engine room floor. "If you call for help, I'll kill you and your whole family," he shouted, and then took refuge behind engine tanks in which ice had been frozen.

From this position he covered the troops on the wall of the engine room. Stueber escaped from another door and called the police.

Before they arrived, Hightower had left the building thru a rear entrance onto Quincy street, and was not seen around the plant again.

Ward Able To Walk.

Ward was treated by a physician, and was able to walk out of the plant after receiving emergency treatment. He had been with the Mutual Ice company as an engine man since last winter. He was for twelve years employed by the Forbes Milling company. He is survived by his wife.

THE WEATHER

FORECAST FOR KANSAS
Partly cloudy and somewhat unsettled tonight and tomorrow. Rain, temperature.

SUNSHINE IS PROMISED

Decided Improvement in Weather Scheduled for Tomorrow.

TODAY'S TEMPERATURES.

7 o'clock...46 12 o'clock...57
8 o'clock...48 1 o'clock...59
9 o'clock...53 2 o'clock...60
10 o'clock...55 3 o'clock...62

FORECAST FOR NEXT WEEK
Considerable clearing. No much change in temperature, occasional showers.

Much improved weather is scheduled for Topeka, says Meteorologist Flora. Sunday will be partly clear and sunny with higher temperatures. Although the weather will be slightly unsettled no rain is expected to fall in Topeka within the next twenty-four hours as Topeka is just outside the rain belt at present. The sky was clear today from Topeka east to New York and was cloudy from Topeka west to Nevada.

Cloudy weather helped Topeka escape another frost last night. With the rising temperatures there is little chance for a frost to occur in Topeka in the near future.

Topeka received only a sprinkling of rain during the last twenty-four hours.

(Continued on Page Two.)

OLD RESIDENT DIES HERE

Mrs. Mary B. George Came to Topeka in 1892.

Mrs. Mary B. George, age 67, who had been a resident of Topeka for thirty years, died today at her home, 1005 Tyler street.

She was born in Bristol, England, in 1824, and came to the United States with her parents when a small child. They settled in Wisconsin. She later moved to Texas, where she lived a number of years.

Mrs. George came to Topeka in 1892 and had lived here since that time.

She is survived by seven children, Alma M. George, Lulu E. George, Mrs. W. H. Wilson, Mrs. J. A. Dana, Alfred M. George, all of Topeka; Will E. George, of Cleburne, Tex., and Edgar M. George, of New Haven, Conn.

Funeral arrangements have not been completed.

FLOOD AFFECTS 50,000 PEOPLE

Nearly 750,000 Acres, Half Under Cultivation, To Be Inundated.

Natchez, Miss., April 25.—Approximately 50,000 persons are affected above Natchez by flooding of the Mississippi, Red, Black, Little, Tennessee and Ouchitua rivers, it was estimated today.

That the state had suffered from the relations with other men.

That Wynman was threatened by the state, and for several months his brother-in-law, William Nesbitt, to arrange for a bond in anticipation of arrest.

Wynman left Hoopston, investigation, on March 19, and was not seen here again until the day Miss Hanna disappeared.

Wynman gave very unsatisfactory explanations of his movements, State's Attorney Lewman said.

He is a widower.

Sheriff Knox was very positive in expressing a belief in Wynman's connection with the case, beyond what the authorities say has already been established.

Grace Hanna during the examination frequently interposed questions concerning the state's connection with the farmer and their contemplated marriage.

Wynman was inquired to talk apart confidentially with her on the suggestion of his relatives.

Wynman is a widower. The girl whom he married in 1913 died in January, 1924, and for several months thereafter he lived as a boarder in the Hanna home, until the trouble last November.

MAY INDICT JUDGE DAY YET

Report of Army Board of Inquiry Into Beck Death, In.

Washington, April 25.—The report of the special army board which investigated the killing of Lieut. Col. Paul Ward by Charles W. Beck, P. D. at Oklahoma City, Okla., has been received by Secretary of War Weeks and referred to the judge advocate of the army for his opinion.

Upon the findings of the judge advocate, the general hinges the possibility, officials said, of the opening of a case, together with the possible indicting of Judge Day.

PRINCE TO BE KNIGHT ALSO

Order of Thistle To Be Conferred on English Heir by Father.

London, April 25.—Prince of Wales, it is understood, will be made a Knight of the Thistle upon his return from his Indian and Far Eastern tour as a token of the king's satisfaction at the success of his personal mission abroad. The prince is expected to return to the United Kingdom in the near future.

The "most noble and most ancient order of the thistle," as it is formally designated, was founded according to legend in 842 A. D.

RADIO NOT TO BLAME

State Meteorologist Flora Has No Faith in "Agitated Air" Theory as Cause for Floods.

S. D. Flora, state meteorologist, has no faith in the belief that "agitated air" resulting from radio services all over the country is causing the floods in many sections of the United States.

When asked about the statement of Delbert Neal of Osceola, Mo., which appeared in a dispatch in Friday evening's issue of The State Journal, Flora said: "The radio has as much bearing on the heavy rains over the country as the Pageant of Progress had on the rains in Topeka this week."

PROBE STILL ON

Friend of Dead School Teacher Questioned All Night.

He Had Once Been Her Flance, Hoopston Men Find.

ADmits HE KNEW CONDITION

Parsonage Murder Mystery.

Officers Hear Confession in

Widower Had Been Boarder in the Dead Girl's Home.

(By the Associated Press.)

Hoopston, Ill., April 25.—Information obtained thru a night of grilling of John Wyman, 36, a well to do farmer, in connection with the mysterious death of Gertrude Hanna, 23, whose body was found Thursday in the basement of an untenanted parsonage of the First United Presbyterian church here, will be placed before the Vermilion grand jury May 15, State's Attorney John H. Lewman announced this morning.

During thirty-six hours of almost constant questioning Wyman stubbornly insisted that he was innocent of murdering the young woman, but admitted that he was the father of her child, which would have been born in a few weeks, the state's attorney announced.

"I didn't kill her," he said.

Under the rapid fire of questions from State's Attorney Lewman, Sheriff Knox and Chief Bogart, Wyman repeatedly insisted that he was innocent of the crime.

"Why should she kill herself," he was asked.

"Because of the condition she was in," replied Wyman.

"What caused this condition?" demanded Mr. Lewman.

"I suppose I did," Wyman said.

Investigation has disclosed, Mr. Lewman and Sheriff Knox say, that Wyman left his home in Palestine, Ill., on March 21, the day Miss Hanna disappeared from the country home of her sister, Mrs. Nat Harding, seven miles from Hoopston.

Miss Hanna was missed at 10 a. m. on March 22.

"We know that Wyman was also in Danville at 5 p. m. that day," Sheriff Knox said.

Admissions wrung from Wyman has established according to the sheriff and state's attorney.

That Wyman had intimate relations with Miss Hanna as late as last October or November and that he agreed to marry her.

That the state had been told that the marriage had occurred January 12.

That Wynman refused to abide by his agreement, offering as an excuse that the state had been told that the marriage had occurred January 12.

That Wynman was threatened by the state, and for several months his brother-in-law, William Nesbitt, to arrange for a bond in anticipation of arrest.

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IS FIRE FIGHTER

Jay W. Stevens of San Francisco to Address C. of C.

Will Speak at First Forum Meeting Tuesday Evening.

The first forum meeting of the present year for the Chamber of Commerce will be held at the rooms of the chamber Tuesday evening, May 2, at 7:45 o'clock.

B. B. Eitelmann, of the Volland-Eggel Clothing company, has been appointed chairman of the forum committee for the coming year.

THOUGHT SHE KILLED HUSBAND

Confessed and Everything—But He Was Alive and Nearly Sober.

Chicago, April 25.—"I want to confess that my husband was a young man, haggard and frail, as she entered a local police station last night. Then there was the story of the three babies at home, of the husband coming home intoxicated and striking one of them. 'I was frantic,' she declared. 'There was hammer blows, one on the head, and I was building a little swing for the baby. I grabbed it and struck him on the head. He's lying dead on the floor.'"

Shortly after officers were investigating, came a call from a lieutenant at a more remote station.

"My men just returned from the Newcastle avenue address," he said. "Well, Mrs. Kirkland's all right. Her husband was hurt much. He says he wants her to come on back home, and he'll quit drinking."

DUG INTO NITRO BOTTLE

Injuries to Santa Fe Track Workmen May Prove Fatal.

Ottawa, Kan., April 25.—Albert Jackson and Thomas Williams, Santa Fe railroad track workmen, were suffering from injuries today which may prove fatal as a result of an unusual explosion near here late yesterday.

The men were working with a gang digging post holes when a shovel struck a bottle of nitro-glycerin. There was a terrific blast and every member of the gang was injured. It was believed the bottle had been thrown from a train.

SHE HAD ONLY \$134 LEFT

Virginia Rappe's Estate Is Announced Today From Los Angeles.

State Ready To Take Over Coal Mines in Kansas, if Serious Situation Arises

Governor Allen Says Preparations Have Been Made to Meet Demand for Coal for Threshing Purposes or for Industrial or Domestic Use—State May Take Over the Property.

The state is ready to take over the coal mines whenever a serious situation arises. That was the statement today by Governor Allen when he formally discussed testimony before the industrial court to the effect that the mine workers will not produce coal under any order the labor court may make.

If there is a shortage of coal for threshing purposes or for industrial or domestic use, operators will be directed to blow their whistles and open their mines. If the men who have been employed in the production of coal do not come back to their jobs, then the state will take over the property. State operation, similar to that in 1919, would follow.

State is Ready to Act.

Governor Allen asserted today that the state is ready to act on short notice. The state will not wait for the emergency to become acute, said the governor, but will act as soon as an actual shortage or need is presented.

"It is my judgment that the controversy over coal in the state will be over long before the need approaches for threshing coal. However, in Kansas there is no coal to be had either for threshing or for any other purpose."

"The court of industrial relations is making a minute survey of all the stocks of coal in this state. The survey will be continued and whenever a shortage of coal either for industrial or domestic purposes approaches the operators will be directed to begin the operation of their mines."

"It has been said that the situation in Kansas, so far as the coal industry is concerned, is not different from that in any other state. There are three very important differences.

"First, over 200 mines are operating in Kansas today and they are operating because the law of this state guarantees to every man who wants to work in a coal mine the right to work without any interference on the part of any one else."

"Second, the state has the right in cases where an emergency threatens the public welfare to take over the mines and operate them. The law of no other state has conferred this right upon the government."

"In the case of a coal emergency it becomes an important function of the state."

"Third, the state has the right to picket the union forces and the non-union forces. In Kansas no such battle could ensue. The operators can open their mines any time they wish and use labor from other fields of the state without the picketing of this labor by the union forces."

"Just as soon as the need for more coal is felt, the state will be in a position to become an emergency, the operators will be directed to open their mines and the state will take them over and operate them."

SENATE ASKS THORO INVESTIGATION

Sinclair's 20-Year Lease Shown to Body Today.

Washington, April 25.—Investigation of the lease of naval oil reserves in California and Wyoming by the interior and navy departments was ordered today by the senate.

The photographic copy of the lease, signed April 7 by Secretary Fall of the interior department, and Secretary Denby of the navy, on behalf of the government and Harry L. Sinclair for the Mammoth Oil company, leases, was transmitted shortly before action was taken on a resolution for a congressional investigation.

The vote was 85 to 0.

The Sinclair Oil interests have a lease for twenty years on 9,321 acres in the Wyoming naval oil reserve under royalties ranging from 15% to 25 per cent upon production.

The photograph of the lease, signed April 7 by Secretary Fall of the interior department, and Secretary Denby of the navy, on behalf of the government and Harry L. Sinclair for the Mammoth Oil company, leases, was transmitted shortly before action was taken on a resolution for a congressional investigation.

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TO CLOSE TONIGHT

Pageant of Progress Not To Be Continued Next Week.

Good Weather Today Brings Biggest Crowd of the Show.

HISTORIC SPECTACLE TONIGHT

In Addition to Portrayal a Ford Will Be Given Away.

Directors Enthusiastic Over Plans for Next Year.

The Pageant of Progress will close tonight and will not be continued into next week, according to an announcement today by C. W. Seely, chairman of the general committee, following a meeting of the committee.

In making the announcement Seely said that plans to continue the pageant for two or three days next week were abandoned as the members of the committee were reluctant to impose any further on the business firms whose places of operation about downtown Topeka were being closed.

Seely said that the cast of the big historical spectacle has been most generous of its time and effort, and the committee did not wish to be put in the position of asking further concessions from the members when the original closing date was at hand.

Seely said the committee felt that only the inclement weather Wednesday and Thursday prevented the stupendous success it promised to be, and that next year it is hoped that the weather men will be a little more lenient when the pageant comes around.

The corridor of the court of commerce was well filled with visitors to the displays this afternoon and the special program in the auditorium prepared by the Woman's club of Topeka was presented to a full house.

Spectacle Tonight.

Tonight the historical spectacle portraying 100 years of Kansas and Topeka history will be presented for the last time. Hundreds of Topekanes are members of the huge cast, and their work in the spectacle has caused them to receive a great deal of praise from all who have seen it.

The members of this cast rehearsed nightly for two weeks previous to the opening of the Pageant of Progress, and stuck to the guns for the first two days of the exposition despite discouraging crowds.

Following the presentation of the spectacle tonight, the Ford coupe will be given away to the holder of the lucky ticket.

Prize drawing will be held at 8 o'clock in the evening at the motor floor, and the auditorium was packed. In the auditorium every window from which a view of the stage could be had was black with spectators, and every available bit of space was filled long before the first pantomime of the pageant started.

The formal coronation of Queen Florence Duschaden was an integral part of the spectacle. The coronation ceremony was held in the final curtain went down and the dancing floor was cleared, a thousand couples followed in the wake of Governor and Mrs. Allen.

The three babies at home, of the husband coming home intoxicated and striking one of them. 'I was frantic,' she declared. 'There was hammer blows, one on the head, and I was building a little swing for the baby. I grabbed it and struck him on the head. He's lying dead on the floor.'"

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